



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

29 May 2012

Top Stories

- Canadian authorities seized almost \$1 million in phony U.S. currency and arrested at least four people they believe ran a counterfeiting ring that distributed fake money in many U.S. cities and several other countries. – *Canadian Press* (See item [11](#))
- Pertussis outbreaks in several U.S. States continued to keep health officials busy offering vaccination advice to try and stem the surge. – *Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy* (See item [33](#))
- A Kentucky jail increased security around its perimeter after four inmates escaped in the last 6 months — including two the week of May 14 — by digging a hole and crawling out under the fence. – *Associated Press* (See item [40](#))
- More than 95 percent of over 600 SAP systems used by global companies, governments, and defense agencies that were tested by security firm Onapsis were vulnerable to espionage, sabotage, and fraud. The main reason: Patches were not applied. – *IDG News Service* (See item [46](#))
- A flashlight rigged with explosives went off May 24 slightly injuring two employees inside a Salvation Army distribution center in south-central Phoenix, authorities said. Phoenix police suggested the incident may be linked to two other recent flashlight bomb cases in Glendale, Arizona. – *KTAR 620 AM Phoenix* (See item [55](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
 - [Emergency Services](#)
 - [National Monuments and Icons](#)
-

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *May 25, WSAU 550 AM/99.9 FM Wausau* – (Wisconsin) **Winds, storms knock out power for 13,000.** Wisconsin Public Service said it was making progress May 25 restoring power after high winds and heavy rain brought outages to the area May 24. About 33 percent of the remaining outages were in Minocqua. There were another 300 homes without electricity in Wausau early May 25. There were also scattered outages in Rhinelander, Antigo, Merrill, and Eagle River. Many areas saw winds above 50-miles-per-hour cause limbs to come down across power lines. At the height of the storm, more than 13,000 customers were without power.
Source: <http://wsau.com/news/articles/2012/may/25/winds-storms-knock-out-power-for-13000/>
2. *May 25, Eureka Times-Standard* – (California) **Hertz fined \$18K in Humboldt County settlement.** Humboldt County, California, fined the Hertz Corporation \$18,279 in connection with violations associated with an underground fuel storage tank at the Arcata/Eureka Airport, the Eureka Times-Standard reported May 25. The Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health secured a settlement agreement after inspectors identified many environmental violations associated with the tank, which stored gasoline, said the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services. The violations include a failure to maintain the tank according to the conditions of the permit, a failure to properly train employees for 3 consecutive years, and a failure to perform timely monitoring of leak detection and spill systems. The division of environmental health determined the Hertz Corporation is now in compliance with the settlement requirements, including full payment of penalties and agency costs.

Source: http://www.times-standard.com/localnews/ci_20708909/hertz-fined-18k-humboldt-county-settlement

3. *May 24, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Officials OK replacing part of pipe that leaked.** Regulators approved proposals by Enbridge Inc. for two oil pipeline projects, one of which replaces part of the line that ruptured in southwestern Michigan in 2010. May 24, the Michigan Public Service Commission said both projects were in the public interest. One would replace a 50-mile segment between Ingham and Oakland counties. That is part of the line that leaked more than 800,000 gallons into the Kalamazoo River and a tributary creek nearly 2 years ago. Enbridge announced recently it was replacing the entire 286-mile line, which runs from Griffith, Indiana, to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. The commission also approved a new pipeline to transport oil in Ingham, Jackson, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties.

Source:

http://www.wilx.com/news/headlines/Officials_OK_Replacing_Part_of_Pipe_that_Leaked_153845025.html

4. *May 24, Reuters* – (New York) **Pipeline leak disrupts some natgas supply in NYC area.** A leak of a natural gas pipeline in Mount Vernon, New York, disrupted supplies to several utilities in the New York City area May 24, according to utility company Web sites. New York power and gas company Consolidated Edison Inc said it is looking for the source of the leak, which is on a line in Mount Vernon. Con Ed said customers were not affected by the leak. National Grid, which operates the natural gas system on Long Island, said Con Edison's Hunts Point compressor station in the Bronx would be shut due to the leak. In addition, Orange and Rockland said it was asking marketers to move natural gas deliveries on the Tennessee pipeline — which runs from the Gulf coast of Texas to New England — to the Columbia or Algonquin pipelines effective immediately. Con Edison unit Orange and Rockland operates in Orange and Rockland counties on the west side of the Hudson River across from Westchester. A spokesman for the Tennessee pipeline, which is owned by El Paso Corp, said there was not a leak on its pipeline.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-coned-gasleakbre84n16g-20120524,0,7538877.story>

For another story, see item [30](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

5. *May 25, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Mislabeled chemicals trigger illness, evacuation at Oklahoma City factory.** An Oklahoma City business was evacuated May 24 and several workers were treated after a chemical solution started smoking and caused people to feel nauseated, firefighters said. A fire major said several workers at Macklanburg-Duncan fell ill after mixing a sodium hydroxide solution. The building was evacuated, and the workers symptoms improved after they received oxygen from emergency crews. Eight other employees were evaluated by paramedics.

A fire deputy chief said the mixing of mislabeled chemicals caused the situation. Macklanburg-Duncan manufactures building products such as weather stripping, flooring and decorative moldings. The fire major said the fire department's hazardous materials team would work with the company to determine how to deal with the chemicals.

Source: <http://newsok.com/mislabeled-chemicals-trigger-illness-evacuation-at-oklahoma-city-factory/article/3678230>

6. *May 25, Bozeman Daily Chronicle* – (Montana) **Fertilizer truck wrecks in Yellowstone National Park.** Fertilizer leaking from a semi-truck that crashed in Yellowstone National Park in Montana May 24 spared the Madison River. A truck carrying ammonia liquid fertilizer rolled on U.S. Highway 191 in the park. Fertilizer from the truck leaked into a nearby ditch but did not threaten the river, said a Yellowstone public affairs officer. Responders from the Hebgen Basin Rural Fire District deployed equipment to stop the material from moving. The Montana Department of Transportation also brought sand to help with the cleanup. A company from Ashton, Idaho, sent a truck to the crash site to pump the remaining material out of the tank. While traffic was slowed in the area, there were no road closures. Park rangers and ambulance services from West Yellowstone also responded to the scene.

Source:

http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/yellowstone_national_park/article_39b9341a-a626-11e1-8341-001a4bcf887a.html

7. *May 25, Bloomberg News* – (Illinois) **Syngenta pays \$105 million to settle herbicide lawsuits.** Syngenta AG, the world's largest crop-chemicals company, agreed to pay \$105 million to settle litigation involving U.S. water utilities over the herbicide atrazine. Syngenta filed the agreement with a district court in Illinois May 24, the Switzerland-based company said in a statement May 25. "Under the terms of the agreement, Syngenta expressly denied liability and the plaintiffs acknowledged that they are not aware of any new scientific studies relating to atrazine," the company said. Syngenta said it will continue to sell atrazine in the United States for corn growers to control weeds. The chemical was banned in the European Union in 2003 after the weedkiller was linked in studies to birth defects in frogs.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-05-25/syngenta-pays-105-million-to-settle-herbicide-lawsuits.html>

For more stories, see items [22](#) and [26](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Maine) **Investigators enter fire-damaged sub in Maine.** Investigators began their damage assessment and investigation May 25 following a fire aboard a nuclear-powered submarine being overhauled at a dry dock at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. A shipyard spokeswoman said the USS Miami was ventilated to remove smoke and people were allowed into the fire-damaged forward compartments. U.S. senators from Maine and New Hampshire said the Navy dispatched three investigative teams to the shipyard. The fire started the night of May 23. It damaged several rooms aboard the vessel, including the command and control center, but spared the nuclear propulsion system. It is not yet clear whether the sub can be salvaged.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2012/05/25/fire_damage_raises_questions_about_subs_future/

For more stories, see items [44](#) and [46](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

9. *May 25, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (New York) **SEC halts fraudulent investment scheme by New York-based fund manager.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) May 25 announced charges against a New York-based fund manager and his two firms for luring investors into a trading program that would purportedly maximize their profits but instead spent their money in unauthorized ways. The SEC alleges that since at least November 2011, the fund manager and his firms raised about \$11 million by selling investors limited partnership interests in Absolute Fund LP, an investment vehicle the manager claimed had \$220 million in trading capital. He and his firms falsely claimed Absolute Fund would allocate millions of dollars in matching investment funds, place the combined funds in brokerage accounts through which investors could trade securities, and operate a “first loss” trading program that would allow investors to dramatically increase potential profits. However, the SEC alleged instead of using investor funds for trading purposes, the manager and his firms Absolute Fund Advisors (AFA) and Absolute Fund Management (AFM) siphoned off about \$2 million of the proceeds to pay redemptions from earlier investors and to pay their personal and business expenses. The SEC obtained an asset freeze against the manager and his companies May 24 in a New York

City federal court.

Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-103.htm>

10. *May 25, Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice* – (Pennsylvania) **Grandfather charged in bank heists.** Investigators said a man turned to robbing banks as a way to climb out of the family's growing financial burden. May 24, State police in Pennsylvania charged the man in connection with three bank robberies since November 22, 2011 — Luzerne Bank in Dallas Township, First Liberty Bank and Trust in Monroe Township, Wyoming County, and PNC Bank in Mocanaqua. Authorities said the man robbed the Luzerne Bank in Dallas Township armed with balloons he claimed were filled with acid but really contained ammonia. He told investigators he used a pellet gun in the next two robberies because the balloon method "did not work so well," according to arrest papers. He has been in custody since his arrest May 4 when he crashed his motorcycle fleeing the PNC Bank hold up in Mocanaqua. State police at Wyoming consolidated all three cases into one criminal complaint filed May 24. He was charged with multiple counts of robbery and theft.

Source: <http://citizensvoice.com/news/grandfather-charged-in-bank-heists-1.1320065>

11. *May 24, Canadian Press* – (International) **Police say almost \$1 million in fake bills seized in raids in Quebec.** Authorities seized almost \$1 million in phony U.S. currency as sweeping raids were carried out at six locations in Quebec, Canada, the week of May 21. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said the investigation involved the U.S. Secret Service, the RCMP, and Surete du Quebec. They said four arrests were made, and the raids made May 23 in the Trois-Rivieres and Drummondville areas dismantled a crime group able to produce millions of dollars in fake currency. "The RCMP alleges that the counterfeiting ring had the capability to produce very high quality counterfeit bank notes that were basically undetectable to the naked eye," the Mounties said in a release. "Not only is this alleged ring believed to have distributed large amounts of counterfeit bank notes in Quebec, but similar bank notes have also been traced by the U.S. Secret Service in several U.S. cities and in other countries." Police said they seized \$949,000 in phony U.S. \$20 bank notes. They said they also uncovered a laboratory mainly used to add finishing touches to counterfeit notes like serial numbers and holographic features. The RCMP release said the fake notes were printed using an offset press with non-sequential serial numbers, which police called "rather uncommon" for a counterfeit operation. RCMP said one suspect faces charges of production, possession, and distribution of counterfeit currency. Police said the other three suspects arrested could face prosecution in Canada or the United States.

Source: <http://www.brandonsun.com/national/breaking-news/police-say-almost-1-million-in-fake-bills-seized-in-raids-in-quebec-153787035.html?thx=y>

12. *May 24, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Florida) **Final defendant convicted in mortgage fraud scheme.** A Florida jury May 23 convicted a man on one count of wire fraud for his role in an elaborate mortgage-fraud scheme that spanned from Miami to Panama City. Four co-defendants previously pleaded guilty in the case and testified against the man. Evidence revealed the man touted himself as a real-estate investor with a Miami investment company Right Choice Housing, LLC. In mid-2005, the man

traveled to Panama City Beach and walked into a real-estate company and said he wanted to buy five properties in Panama City and Panama City Beach. The meeting kicked off an 8 month, mortgage-fraud spree involving 10 properties. For many properties, the man, through his realtor, also convinced the sellers to agree to loan him money from the proceeds they were to make from the sale. Then the man and his accomplices located “straw buyers” in the Miami area to give their credit information in exchange for between \$10,000 and \$30,000. The defendants used the difference between the lower and higher sales prices to cover the straw buyer’s required down payment. Over \$1.2 million of the remainder was then wired to the man or companies owned by him, such as Gold by Gold and Bates Enterprises. In total, lenders gave more than \$9 million in mortgages to purchase nine properties in Panama City and Panama City Beach. By the end of 2006, all of the mortgages were in default, and all of the properties have since been foreclosed on.

Source: <http://www.wmbb.com/story/18617606/final-defendant-convicted-in-mortgage-fraud-scheme>

13. *May 24, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (California) **Sunnyvale attorney convicted of investment fraud.** A Sunnyvale, California attorney was convicted by a federal jury May 23 of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud and multiple counts of mail and wire fraud, a U.S. attorney announced. The jury found the man conspired with his business partners to commit fraud on investors in private-money lender JSW Financial Inc. Evidence at trial showed the man and his co-conspirators used funds obtained from investors to arrange and service private money loans to borrowers who built single-family homes. JSW offered investors the opportunity to invest in fractional interests in these loans and in two investment funds: the Blue Chip Realty Fund LLC (Blue Chip) and Shoreline Investment Fund LLC (Shoreline). JSW told Blue Chip and Shoreline investors their investments would be secured by deeds of trust on real property. The evidence at trial, however, showed that those representations were false: JSW did not secure the investments in Blue Chip and Shoreline and used Blue Chip and Shoreline money on failed real estate projects and for other purposes such as interest payments and business expenses. Ultimately, Blue Chip and Shoreline investors suffered a multi-million-dollar loss. The jury convicted the man of all 18 counts alleged in the indictment — 1 count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, 16 counts of mail fraud, and 1 count of wire fraud.

Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/sunnyvale-attorney-convicted-of-investment-fraud>

14. *May 24, U.S. Department of the Treasury* – (National) **SIGTARP, CFPB, and Treasury issue a fraud alert to the Armed Services community to combat HAMP mortgage modification scams.** The Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP), the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) May 24 issued a fraud alert to the Armed Services community to combat scams targeted at homeowners seeking to apply for mortgage assistance through the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) and other federal programs. Many of these scams are specifically targeting members of the Armed Services community. The fraud alert is designed to raise awareness of the scams and provides a list of resources available for more information and for assistance with mortgage-related questions and how to report fraud.

Hallmarks of HAMP mortgage-modification scams include: the unofficial use of official program names or logos of government agencies, non-profit organizations, and/or lenders; the advertising of a very high success rate in achieving modifications; and the guarantee of a successful modification in exchange for an upfront fee.

Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1592.aspx>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

15. *May 25, MSNBC* – (Virginia) **Student tour group sickened.** Three students were treated after members of their tour group showed symptoms of dehydration May 24. The 200-person tour group was at the Rosslyn Metro Station in Arlington, Virginia, when at least 1 of the students got sick on the platform. The three students were taken to the hospital to get fluids. The station was closed for about 30 minutes as a precaution.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/47563898/ns/local_news-washington_dc/#.T7-SKVK1UIQ
16. *May 25, Northescambia.com* – (Florida) **No injuries in Molino train derailment.** At least four cars on a CSX freight train derailed in the Molino area of Escambia County, Florida, May 24. The loaded freight cars hauling flour and refrigerated orange juice came off a side track near the dead end of McKinnonville Road. The cars appeared to have left the tracks at low speed as they passed a switch as the train headed south toward Cantonment. Multiple cross ties were broken, with the tracks separating and many train wheels coming to rest between the two pieces of track. None of the cars overturned or left the railbed, and nothing was spilled from any of the freight cars. While the incident initially blocked crossings on Daffin and Fairground roads, those were re-opened within about an hour. Officials said CSX expected to have the derailed cars back on the secondary track by late May 25 or early May 26.
Source: <http://www.northescambia.com/2012/05/train-derailment-in-molino>
17. *May 25, Trinidad Times Independent* – (Colorado) **Bridge collapse closes Hwy. 12; reroute drives motorists to Hwy. 160, I-25.** A May 24 bridge collapse on Highway 12 west of Trinidad, Colorado, forced the temporary closure of the highway between Stonewall and Weston. The bridge, near mile marker 47, was seriously damaged and traffic was rerouted via Highway 160 and Interstate 25. The bridge spans the Purgatoire River and was in the process of being repaired because of its age and condition when part of the bridge decking fell away and other parts cracked, forcing its closure. No individuals or vehicles were on the bridge when the damage occurred sometime May 23. The closure caused the cancellation of the final day of the school year for Primero students.
Source: <http://trinidad-times.com/bridge-collapse-closes-hwy-reroute-drives-motorists-to-hwy-i-p3629-1.htm>
18. *May 24, Marine Log* – (New York) **NTSB makes ferry safety recommendations.** The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) concluded the probable cause of a

loss of propulsion control of a Staten Island Ferry in 2010 in New York was the failure of a solenoid. In the wake of its investigation into the accident, the NTSB May 24 made several safety recommendations in a letter to the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral. “One is the requirement that newly built U.S.-flag passenger vessels with controllable pitch propulsion, including cycloidal propulsion, should be equipped with alarms that audibly and visually alert the operator to deviations between the operator’s propulsion and steering commands and the actual propeller response.” The NTSB also said that “where technically feasible,” these same systems should be retrofitted on existing U.S.-flag passenger vessels. It also recommended the Coast Guard require all U.S.-flag passenger vessel operators to implement safety management systems, taking into account the characteristics, methods of operation, and nature of service of these vessels, and with respect to ferries, the sizes of the ferry systems within which the vessels operate.

Source:

http://marinelog.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2439:ntsb-makes-ferry-safety-recommendations&catid=89:safety-and-security&Itemid=191

For more stories, see items [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [6](#), [25](#), and [57](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *May 25, Associated Press* – (California) **Postal worker robbed of mail in Stockton.** Stockton, California police said three men duct-taped a U.S. mail carrier at gunpoint and robbed him of about 3,500 pieces of mail May 24. Police said the carrier was adjusting his cargo when the unidentified men approached. One pushed his head down and held a gun to him while another taped his hands behind his back. The third man served as a lookout. The men then made off with the mail, leaving the carrier in his truck.

Source: <http://www.ktvn.com/story/18625741/postal-worker-robbed-of-mail-in-stockton>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *May 25, Food Safety News* – (South Carolina; International) **Contaminated beef mars Australia’s usually clean track record.** The ground beef product recalled the week of May 14 by two South Carolina-based manufacturers was imported from Australia and contaminated before it arrived, according to one of the importers, Food Safety News reported May 25. After testing conducted by the South Carolina Meat and Poultry Inspection Department revealed E. coli in a sample of boxed beef from Australia, two U.S. companies — G & W, Inc. and Lancaster Frozen Foods — recalled almost 7,000 pounds of ground beef products made with meat sourced from the foreign producer. The boxed beef was imported in March and then stored in freezers before being processed into ground beef products, which were produced between March 2 and May

11 at Lancaster Frozen Foods and between March 2 and April 12 at G&W. While several hundred pounds of the product had not yet been distributed, the majority of it was processed and sold, said the vice president of G & W. Contamination in beef from Australia is a rare event. Australian beef accounts for around 20 percent of the beef imported into the United States. Between March 2011 and March 2012, the United States imported approximately 560 million pounds of beef from Australia.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/05/contaminated-beef-mars-australias-usually-clean-track-record/>

21. *May 25, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **New study details mercury contamination in California sport fish.** New findings from the first Statewide study of contaminants in fish caught off the California coast show that methylmercury, a toxin that damages the nervous system of humans, was found in high concentrations in more than a third of the locations that researchers sampled. The report, released May 22 by the State's water quality agency, yields new information for anglers and consumers on which species of fish tend to accumulate the substance. It also indicated that older, predatory fish have higher levels of methylmercury regardless of where they are caught. Seven species popular with recreational fishermen had high concentrations of methylmercury: leopard sharks, brown smoothhound sharks, spiny dogfish, copper rockfish, rosy rockfish, china rockfish, and striped bass, the report stated, so children and pregnant women should not eat them. The analysis also found a higher rate of contamination in fish caught on the northern coast than those caught in the Bay Area. Since there are not significant sources of mercury pollution to the north, the findings indicate faraway sources can affect local fish, said the leader of the study produced by the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program of the State Water Resources Control Board. Overall, the study found that 37 percent of the 68 locations where fish were sampled along the coast produced at least one species with high concentrations of methylmercury.
Source: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_20704252/new-study-details-mercury-contamination-california-sport-fish
22. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **40 treated after ammonia leak at Neb. meat plant.** An ammonia leak briefly disrupted operations at a northeast Nebraska pork plant and sent 40 workers to area hospitals for evaluation. The ammonia leak developed May 24 in the refrigeration system at the Tyson Foods plant in Madison. A Tyson spokesman said the plant's 150 workers were evacuated. Forty workers were taken to hospitals as a precaution and later released. The ammonia leak was repaired, and the spokesman said the plant was operating normally May 25.
Source: http://www.theindependent.com/news/state/treated-after-ammonia-leak-at-neb-meat-plant/article_d6de9f60-88b5-5f41-bf50-b6b6e0eb893d.html
23. *May 24, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (National) **Oregon firm recalls smoked bratwurst product due to misbranding and undeclared allergen.** Zenner's Quality Meat Products, Inc., a Portland, Oregon establishment, recalled approximately 3,660 pounds of a bratwurst product because of misbranding and an undeclared allergen, the U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service reported May 24. The product contains soy protein, a known allergen, not declared on the label. The product bears the

establishment number “EST. 6308” inside the U.S. Department of Agriculture mark of inspection. The products were produced through May 16, and distributed to wholesale establishments in California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. The problem was discovered during a routine food label review.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_034_2012_Release/index.asp

24. *May 24, Agriculture.com* – (National) **Thirsty crops need more than a shower.** From plains wheat country to the eastern corn belt, there was a lot riding on rainfall chances the weekend of May 26. The last several weeks saw just fractions of normal rainfall in the Nation’s midsection, leading to both growing shortages of soil moisture and declining crop conditions. The U.S. Drought Monitor showed how rapidly the dry conditions were spreading. As of May 22, virtually all of Iowa, Minnesota, and Kansas ranges from abnormally dry to moderate drought, with about half of Missouri and Illinois under similar conditions. “Drought conditions expanded considerably across the Midwest, northern Delta and central Plains, with dry conditions now being noted in north-central Kansas, eastern Oklahoma, much of Arkansas, southern Missouri, southern Illinois, western Kentucky, Iowa, Minnesota, and eastern North Dakota,” said the MDA EarthSat Weather senior ag meteorologist.

Source: http://www.agriculture.com/news/crops/thirsty-crops-need-me-th-a-shower_2-ar24326

25. *May 24, Desoto Times Tribune* – (Mississippi) **Farmer’s burning ignites 500 acres.** A wheat farmer’s agricultural burn in Walls, Mississippi, roared out of control due to dry conditions and shifting winds and scorched more than 500 acres May 23 before firefighters from six fire departments brought it under control. It took more than 25 firefighters at least 2 hours to bring it under control. The deputy DeSoto County Emergency Management Agency director said the deliberately set fire caused a pile of crossties near the Illinois Central/Canadian National Railroad tracks to ignite and winds quickly spread the fire. “Unfortunately, the railroad was in the process of laying out crossties, both new and old, and they caught fire,” the deputy director said. He said multiple piles were affected along 1 mile of track. “It was supposed to be a controlled burn and it got out of hand,” the DeSoto County deputy fire marshal said. He said the wheat farmer received a burn permit from the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Source:

<http://www.desototimes.com/articles/2012/05/24/news/doc4fbd746585abd285557505.txt>

26. *May 24, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Georgia) **Brunswick, Ga., Rich Products Corp. cited by US Department of Labor’s OSHA for 23 safety violations; proposed penalties more than \$80,000.** The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited Rich Products Corp. for 23 safety violations following an inspection prompted by complaints about the frozen food manufacturing facility in Brunswick, Georgia. Proposed penalties total \$80,385, according to a release by the Department of Labor May 24. The company was cited with 20 serious violations, including exposing workers to workplace entry and exit hazards due to missing signs; an unsafe ammonia refrigeration system due to incomplete process safety information;

and amputation and electrical hazards from not completely guarding process equipment.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=22434

27. *May 24, Armstrong Leader Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Amish man, 18, asphyxiates in 65-foot silo in Indiana County.** A man died May 24 when he was overcome by a lack of oxygen as he worked alongside his younger brother inside a 65-foot silo in Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The Indiana coroner said the man began experiencing distress as he and his brother were leveling the contents of a silo at the farm in South Mahoning. By the time rescue crews reached him, they could not revive him, the coroner said. He ruled the man died of asphyxia due to deprivation of oxygen in a confined space and has ruled the death an accident. Paramedics used a ladder to get an oxygen tank to the surviving boy to help him until a ladder truck arrived to enable rescue workers to get him to safety and reach his brother. According to the man's uncle, the silo had been filled with hay silage the day before. He said that normally there are fans running to help circulate the air because of the gas that rises from the silage.

Source: <http://triblive.com/news/1855862-74/silo-brother-indiana-kimmel-schlabach-amish-baker-filled-oxygen-silage>

For more stories, see items [7](#) and [54](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

28. *May 24, Watertown Daily Times* – (New York) **Deferiet puts ban on unnecessary water use.** Deferiet, New York officials declared a water shortage state of emergency May 24. "The village's main source of water, Well No. 2, has been taken offline due to mechanical failure," according to a statement from the mayor. Village officials expect the well not to be functional for at least 10 days. Pumping from the alternative well does not supply enough pressure to fill the water tower. The state of emergency prohibits any outside water usage. Residents are banned from watering lawns or gardens, washing vehicles, filling pools, or anything utilizing an outside water spigot. The mayor also urged residents practice conservation for all water use.

Source: <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20120524/NEWS03/705239743>

29. *May 24, Caledonia Patch* – (Wisconsin) **Village borrows \$1.36 million to build new water tower.** The Village of Caledonia, Wisconsin, will build a new water tower to replace the old one that is contaminated with radium and is not being used. A larger, 750,000 gallon elevated water tank will serve as a water supply source for the Village of Caledonia Utility District within the Oak Creek service area. The Village borrowed \$1.36 million to build the water tower, which is expected to be online sometime in the spring of 2013.

Source: <http://caledonia.patch.com/articles/village-borrows-1-36-million-to-build-new-water-tower>

30. *May 24, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Methane gas found in three wells, two streams.** Methane gas bubbled to the surface in three residential water wells and two streams in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, near a Chesapeake Energy Marcellus Shale gas drilling operation, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported May 24. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said it, along with Chesapeake, is continuing to investigate the source of the methane gas found in the water wells, two tributaries of Towanda Creek, and a nearby wetland in Leroy Township. Chesapeake's Morse well pad, which has two gas wells, is about a half mile from the affected homes, according to a DEP statement issued May 24. DEP Oil and Gas Program staffers collected gas samples at both wells to run isotopic gas fingerprinting tests while monitoring water wells that were bubbling with methane, and checked the homes for methane. All three residential wells were vented and methane monitoring alarms were installed. A mobile water treatment unit was set up at one home and a temporary water supply tank was installed at another. Two homes were receiving bottled water.
Source: <http://old.post-gazette.com/pg/12145/1234310-100.stm>
31. *May 24, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* – (Indiana) **City hikes sewage overflow ante.** The Fort Wayne, Indiana Board of Public Works approved a project May 23 to extend storm sewers in three neighborhoods: Foster Park, Oakdale, and Fairmont. The project will invest more than \$1.3 million to reduce sewage overflows in the city, adding about 3,750 feet of storm sewers along roads in the city. Combined sewers overflow during heavy rains in the city, sending millions of gallons of untreated rain-sewage mix into area rivers. A federal mandate requires the city to spend \$240 million over 18 years to cut citywide sewage overflows by 90 percent. In addition to installing new storm sewers, city utilities will replace water mains in areas that experience frequent pipe breaks. The project is expected to begin construction in July and be completed by February 2013.
Source: <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20120524/LOCAL/305249965>

For another story, see item [7](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

32. *May 23, GovInfoSecurity* – (National) **20 million affected by health breaches.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) tally of individuals affected by major healthcare information breaches since September 2009 now exceeds 20 million, according to GovInfoSecurity' analysis of the list, which now includes 435 incidents as of May 23. Recently reported incidents at Emory Healthcare and South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, estimated to have affected a combined total of more than 675,000, have yet to make the list pending investigation by the HHS. The list tracks breaches affecting 500 or more individuals that have occurred since late September 2009, when the HITECH Act-mandated breach notification rule went into effect. More than half of all the major breaches reported since the rule went into effect have involved lost or stolen unencrypted electronic devices or media. By comparison,

only about 7 percent have involved a hacker attack. About 22 percent of the breaches have involved a business associate.

Source: <http://www.govinfosecurity.com/20-million-affected-by-health-breaches-a-4793/op-1>

33. *May 23, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy* – (National) **Wisconsin reports pertussis surge as U.S. outbreaks continue.** Pertussis outbreaks in several U.S. States continued to keep health officials busy offering vaccination advice, according to a news release issued May 23 by the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy. A moderator for ProMED mail, the online reporting system of the International Society for Infectious Diseases, commented the current rash of outbreaks probably has multiple causes, including vaccine exemptions, “general under-vaccination,” and waning vaccine-induced immunity. The moderator cited studies by Dutch and Australian researchers that revealed antigenic changes in circulating strains of *Bordetella pertussis*, which may be contributing to a worldwide increase in cases. A New Mexico Department of Health epidemiologist told the Associated Press the vaccine is “the best protection we have against pertussis, but it’s probably somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 to 85 percent effective.”

Source: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/other/news/may2312pertussis.html>

34. *May 22, Nature* – (International) **Biosafety concerns for labs in the developing world.** An inspection of dozens of biocontainment labs across the Asia-Pacific region found that nearly one-third of the biosafety hoods intended to protect workers from deadly pathogens did not work properly, according to biorisk experts, *Nature* reported May 22. The experts spoke at a meeting at London, England’s Chatham House. Stringent biosafety and biosecurity rules are unworkable in many developing countries, where researchers often need to handle infectious agents such as anthrax and plague to protect public health but lack the infrastructure of the West, said a fellow at Chatham House’s Global Health Security center. The weaknesses could have repercussions around the globe if pathogens were released. “The strength of a chain is based on its weakest link, and developing countries are the weakest link,” said the former president of the Asia-Pacific Biosafety Association based in Singapore, which co-sponsored the inspection.

Source: <http://www.nature.com/news/biosafety-concerns-for-labs-in-the-developing-world-1.10687>

35. *May 22, Illinois Department of Public Health* – (Illinois) **First West Nile virus positive bird and mosquitoes in Illinois for 2012 reported.** The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) confirmed the first West Nile virus positive bird and mosquito batches reported in Illinois for 2012, the IDPH reported May 22. A Chicago Department of Public Health employee collected a crow May 16 that tested positive for the virus. IDPH and DuPage County Health Department staff collected positive mosquito samples May 17 in Cook and DuPage counties. “Although it is a little earlier in the season than we normally find West Nile virus positive mosquito pools and birds, it is not unheard of,” said the IDPH director. Public health officials believe that a hot summer increases mosquito activity and the risk of disease from West Nile virus.

Source: http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/press12/5.22.12_First_WNV_Mosq.htm

Government Facilities Sector

36. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Vt. student accused of making school bomb threats.** A student was accused of making two bomb threats at his high school in East Montpelier, Vermont, which was evacuated May 24. The student at Union 32 High School was charged with two counts of false public alarm. Vermont State Police said a bomb threat call was made to the school in the morning and later again in the afternoon. The school was evacuated both times and students were not allowed back in until it was deemed safe. Notes were found inside the school.
Source: <http://www.wftv.com/news/ap/crime/vt-student-accused-of-making-school-bomb-threats/nPDsq/>
37. *May 24, Salem Statesman Journal* – (Oregon) **Classes canceled after bottle explodes at Sprague High School.** A device apparently made with a plastic water bottle exploded May 24 in Sprague High School in Salem, Oregon. The device went off in a garbage can inside the lobby near the gymnasium and made a loud noise. Students were evacuated to the stadium and released for the day so the building could be searched, said a spokesman for Salem-Keizer School District. “There was no fire, just smoke,” said a student who saw the small explosion. “I’ve heard someone used dry ice to freeze fire crackers.” The school district is considering offering a cash reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of those responsible.
Source:
<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20120524/UPDATE/120524014/Classes-canceled-after-device-explodes-Sprague-High-School?odyssey=nav|head>
38. *May 24, Clay Today* – (Florida) **Student had ‘explosive’ device: CCSO.** A Clay County, Florida student was accused of bringing a homemade explosive device to school earlier in May, Clay Today reported May 24. An Oakleaf Junior High School teacher walking past a group of students overheard one of them tell another student to put something away, according to a sheriff’s office arrest report. When the teacher confronted the student, he took two plastic bottles out of his backpack. One was a clear water bottle containing pieces of tin foil; the other was a plastic soda bottle about half full with toilet bowl cleaner. The sheriff’s office said the device could have potentially caused injury. The student was arrested on a felony charge and transported to Duval Detention Center.
Source:
http://www.claytodayonline.com/ee/claytoday/en/component/fullstory/20120524_022_art_6/student-had-explosive-device-ccso
39. *May 23, Williamsport Sun-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Bomb scare shows need for change.** A recent bomb threat directed at East Lycoming School District in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, made officials realize the need for change in the system to alert parents of early dismissals, the superintendent said at a school board meeting May

22. When parents and guardians see heavy snowfall, they know there is a possibility that an early dismissal can occur. In the case of the May 3 bomb threat e-mailed to the school principal and various school officials, some parents were unaware of the early dismissal because the automatic system called a home phone number and they were out or called a cellphone number the parent did not have nearby. The update to the system will allow parents to enter up to four phone numbers and three e-mail addresses, the superintendent said. For the 2012-2013 school year, the system will be updated further to allow for parents to update the system in case contact information needs to change, and to assign order of preference to phone numbers.

Source: <http://www.sungazette.com/page/content.detail/id/578620/Bomb-scare-shows-need-for-change.html?nav=5011>

For more stories, see items [14](#), [17](#), [44](#), and [46](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

40. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Jail tightens security after multiple escapes.** A Kentucky jail increased security around its perimeter after four inmates escaped in the last 6 months by digging a hole and crawling out under the fence, the Associated Press reported May 25. The Hardin County jailer put up more fences and poured concrete slabs about 18 inches wide and 10 inches deep under the existing fences. The jailer said the added security measures will stop inmates from escaping the buildings. Two of the escapes happened 6 months ago, while the other two happened the week of May 14. Three of the four inmates were caught.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/jail-tightens-security-after-multiple-escapes>

41. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Northampton Co. firehouse goes up in flames, 1 person killed.** One person was confirmed dead after a Hellertown, Pennsylvania firehouse went up in flames after a dump truck carrying a load of asphalt crashed into it. The intense blaze at the Leithsville Volunteer Fire Company May 24 went to three alarms, bringing firefighters from several surrounding communities to battle the blaze. A body was found in the rubble. The dump truck apparently struck another vehicle with the impact pushing both vehicles into the firehouse. The victim was in the vehicle hit by the dump truck. The dump truck driver was hospitalized with serious burns to his arms. The volunteer fire company lost a tanker truck, an engine, and a brush truck in the fire.

Source: http://www.phillyburbs.com/ap/state/pa/pa-firehouse-goes-up-in-flames-person-killed/article_c08ff8e0-c376-5cf2-9851-2f89490d7af2.html

42. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **Repairing damage done to Adams County Correctional Center during riot Sunday on hold.** Officials said repairing damage done to the Adams County Correctional Center in Natchez, Mississippi during the prisoner riot May 20 is largely a matter of cleanup. The Natchez Democrat reported significant amounts of trash and debris remained visible in the prison yard May 24. A spokeswoman said the prison administration has not initiated a cleanup because the

cause of the riot is still being investigated. The Adams County sheriff said that while his office expressed a willingness to help with the investigation, the FBI would be the lead investigative organization into the cause and crimes of the riot that killed a correctional officer, and injured 16 other correctional facility employees. The prison has been on lockdown since the riot was contained.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/3adaec64125449048ca65b71468f6e65/MS--Mississippi-Prison-Riot/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

43. *May 25, IDG News Service* – (International) **Untethered jailbreak for iOS 5.1.1 available for download.** Absinthe 2.0, the jailbreak for iOS 5.1.1, is ready and available for download, the Jailbreak Dream Team announced at the Hack in the Box conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 25. Absinthe 2.0 can be used to jailbreak iOS 5.1.1 devices, allowing users to gain root access to the operating system and, for example, download applications not authorized by Apple. Absinthe 2.0 is untethered, which is more desirable than tethered jailbreaks because it allows users to reboot their devices without plugging them into external computers. Untethered jailbreaks also allow devices to remain jailbroken after a reboot. Absinthe 2.0 is the first untethered jailbreak for the third generation iPad, and can also be used for the iPhone 4S, 4, and 3GS, the iPad 2 and 1, and the iPod Touch. It is available for download at the team's Web site. Absinthe 2.0 only works with devices that run iOS 5.1.1.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227495/Untethered_jailbreak_for_iOS_5.1.1_available_for_download

44. *May 25, Military Times* – (International) **123,000 Thrift Savings Plan accounts hacked.** Social Security numbers and other personal data for 123,000 Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account holders were stolen from a contractor's computer in 2011, a TSP spokeswoman said May 25. Names, addresses, and financial account and routing numbers of some accounts were also compromised. A spokeswoman for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, which manages the TSP program, said the hacking incident targeted a computer operated by contractor Serco Inc., which provides record-keeping services for 4.5 million federal employees, service members, and beneficiaries with TSP accounts. "It was a sophisticated attack that overcame the defenses [Serco] had in place," the spokeswoman said. She said both TSP and Serco have enhanced their cybersecurity. "We have monitored our TSP accounts, [and] we have no reason to believe that the data was misused in any way." The attack occurred in July 2011, but the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board and Serco were not aware of it until they were notified in April 2012 by the FBI, the spokeswoman said. The infected computer was immediately shut down and the security of all TSP and Serco systems was reviewed.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2012/05/federal-tsp-accounts-hacked-last-year-052512/>

45. *May 24, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Oracle slammed for outdated approach to Java security.** Oracle has fallen dangerously behind the times with security policies and practices it utilizes on its Java platform, said a Kaspersky Lab researcher. The senior antivirus researcher told V3.co.uk Oracle has not kept pace with security advances made by other companies in recent years. According to figures from Kaspersky, Java remains a top target for malware writers and cyber criminals. Along with Adobe Reader and Flash, Java vulnerabilities are the most popular for online exploits that lead to malware infections. Adobe has extended the security protections on Reader and Flash. Oracle, however, has only recently installed basic security measures, the researcher said. While Java's maker was singled out for its practices, Oracle is far from the only vendor the researcher sees ignoring security issues.
Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2179375/researcher-needles-oracle-java-security>
46. *May 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **Security researcher urges IT to keep up with SAP patches.** More than 95 percent of over 600 SAP systems tested by security firm Onapsis were vulnerable to espionage, sabotage, and fraud, mainly because patches were not applied, according to a security researcher. Attackers targeting SAP platforms do not need access credentials to perform these attacks, said the CTO of Onapsis, a consulting firm focused on ERP systems and business-critical infrastructure. The researcher made his remarks at the Hack in the Box conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 24. Global companies, governments, and defense agencies use SAP to manage common tasks like financial planning, managing payrolls, and logistics, he said. If SAP platforms are breached, intruders are able to access customer data, paralyze the company by shutting down the system, or modify financial information for fraud purposes, he added.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227454/Security_researcher_urges_IT_to_keep_up_with_SAP_patches
47. *May 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **Researchers propose TLS extension to detect rogue SSL certificates.** A pair of security researchers proposed an extension to the transport layer security (TLS) protocol that would allow browsers to detect and block fraudulently issued secure socket layer (SSL) certificates. Called TACK, short for Trust Assertions for Certificate Keys, the extension was submitted for consideration to the Internet Engineering Task Force, the body in charge of TLS, May 23. TACK tries to resolve the trust-related problems with the public key infrastructure highlighted in 2011 by security breaches at certificate authorities Comodo and Diginotar. Both of those breaches resulted in SSL certificates for high profile domains being issued fraudulently.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227481/Researchers_propose_TLS_extension_to_detect_rogue_SSL_certificates

For more stories, see items [32](#) and [49](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

48. *May 25, WEAU 13 Eau Claire* – (Wisconsin) **Radio tower knocked down in storm.** An Eau Claire, Wisconsin radio group was off the air for hours May 24 after a storm destroyed a broadcast tower. The vice president and marketing manager for Clear Channel Radio said the storm brought down the 200-foot tower in the backyard of its studios. The radio group is located west of downtown Eau Claire. The storm knocked out power to the station too, causing all seven channels to go off the air for a time. The vice president expected the stations to resume operations later May 24.
Source: http://www.weau.com/home/headlines/Radio_tower_destroyed_in_storm_153849915.html
49. *May 24, Naked Security* – (National) **Comcast users phished by Constant Guard spam lure.** Naked Security discovered a new phishing scam targeting customers of Comcast XFINITY cable Internet service. They became aware of the scam after the scammers used a reader's Gmail address to send the scam to their intended victims. A link in the e-mail points at a TinyURL which redirected victims to a compromised higher education institution Web site in India. Like many other sites that are compromised to host phishing pages, this one appears to have been compromised through vulnerable FrontPage server extensions. The fake page is an identical copy of the real Comcast XFINITY log-in page and includes a fully functional TRUSTe logo which may lend further credibility to the site.
Source: <http://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2012/05/24/comcast-users-phished-by-constant-guard-spam-lure/>
50. *May 24, KESQ 3 Palm Springs* – (California) **KDES-FM back on-the-air after wind toppled tower.** KDES 98.5 FM in Palm Springs, California, was back on-the-air May 24 after high winds toppled their transmission tower on Edom Hill in Cathedral City May 23. The station's program director said engineers put up a temporary tower May 24 and began transmitting a signal again. He said KDES is looking at getting a more permanent and stronger tower in the future. A classical music station that used the same tower was still off-the-air May 24. KPSC 88.5 FM is owned by the University of Southern California and is a repeater of KUSC 91.5 FM, which broadcasts classical music. Engineers said they were working to set up a temporary transmitter as quickly as

possible.

Source: <http://www.kesq.com/news/KDES-FM-back-on-the-air-after-wind-toppled-tower/-/233092/14145144/-/q6119g/-/index.html>

For more stories, see items [43](#) and [51](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Man breaks into Kansas TV station, stabs 2 workers.** A man wielding a knife broke into a Topeka, Kansas television station May 23 and stabbed two sales employees. WIBW 13 Topeka reported the man eventually was tackled and held down by several employees until police arrived. While restrained, the man threatened to kill the staff and bit at least one worker. The suspect and two people who were stabbed were taken to a hospital. None of their injuries were considered serious. A Topeka police captain said in a news release the homeless man was booked into jail on suspicion of six counts, including aggravated battery and burglary.
Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57440747/man-breaks-into-kansas-tv-station-stabs-2-workers/
52. *May 25, WLOX 13 Biloxi* – (Mississippi) **Biloxi police arrest 3 suspects on meth charge.** Three suspects were arrested after authorities found an active meth lab in a car parked at a Biloxi, Mississippi shopping center, May 24. Biloxi police received an anonymous report about a meth lab. The car the suspects were traveling in was found in the shopping center's parking lot, and investigators confirmed there was an active meth lab in the car. Officials evacuated surrounding businesses due to the risk of hazards found with methamphetamine labs. Investigators also discovered "shake and bake" clandestine labs, precursor chemicals, and methamphetamine in the car. A HAZMAT crew cleared all potential hazardous substances and the car holding them. All businesses that closed during the incident were reopened.
Source: <http://www.wlox.com/story/18618487/biloxi-police-arrest-3-suspects-on-meth-charge>
53. *May 25, NBC News; MSNBC* – (Indiana) **Gunshots confirmed at scene of Indiana hostage situation; no injuries reported.** Police confirmed May 25 that they exchanged gunfire with a gunman holding hostages inside a real estate office in Valparaiso, Indiana. Most of the hostages escaped or were released, but the gunman was still holding a small number of people, police said. Only one person was known to have been injured, a woman who was treated at a hospital for a blunt force head wound. A police sergeant said he didn't know how many, but he said fewer than 10 people were believed to have been inside when the gunman arrived. He said there was an exchange of gunfire when officers first arrived on the scene at the Prudential office building. Earlier, at least five people were allowed to leave the building. A standoff situation was ongoing as of late afternoon May 25.

Source: <http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/news/2012/05/25/11881035-gunshots-confirmed-at-scene-of-indiana-hostage-situation-no-injuries-reported?lite/>

54. *May 24, YNN Hudson Valley* – (New York) **Bacteria identified in Mother's Day food poisoning incident.** The Putnam County Health Department said it has identified the cause of a food poisoning outbreak at a Kent Cliff, New York Buddhist monastery May 13, according to YNN Hudson Valley, May 24. Officials said Staphylococcus Aureus can cause toxins in food kept at improper temperatures. The toxins then cause food poisoning when ingested. The department said some of the food served at the monastery was held at improper temperatures, however they said they may never know what food actually caused the outbreak. Five victims were hospitalized but have since been released.

Source: http://hudsonvalley.ynn.com/content/top_stories/585586/bacteria-identified-in-mother-s-day-food-poisoning-incident/

55. *May 24, KTAR 620 AM Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Flashlight explosive goes off at Phoenix building.** A flashlight rigged with explosives went off May 24 inside a Salvation Army distribution center in south-central Phoenix, slightly injuring two employees, authorities said. Phoenix police said preliminary evidence suggested the incident is linked to two other recent cases in Glendale, Arizona, in which someone left flashlights packed with explosives in open areas of the city. The Salvation Army distribution center and nearby area were evacuated as a precaution and police brought in a bomb squad to investigate the explosion. Agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives responded to the scene, as they did to the Glendale incidents.

Source: <http://ktar.com/6/1546702/Small-bomb-goes-off-in-Phoenix-Salvation-Armey-distribution-center>

56. *May 24, Chattanooga Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **3 injured at chlorine leak at Doubletree hotel.** A relatively small chlorine leak at a Doubletree hotel in Chattanooga, Tennessee, resulted in three people being sent to a local hospital May 24. The Chattanooga Fire Department responded with several fire companies, as well as the HAZMAT team. The incident commander said two workers with the hotel were in the basement, putting three chlorine tablets into a machine that adds chlorine to the hotel pool. Apparently a valve in the machine failed and chlorine spewed out into the room. The two men were exposed and at some point they left the room. A short time later, an employee from the hotel next door walked into the same area to get supplies, and was also exposed to the chlorine. All three were coughing and complaining of breathing difficulties, so they were taken by a private vehicle to a hospital. They were expected to be treated and released that day.

Source: <http://www.chattanooga.com/2012/5/24/226900/3-Injured-At-Chlorine-Leak-At.aspx>

For another story, see item [46](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

57. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Fast-moving wildfire in Mich. burns 17,000 acres.** A fast-moving wildfire in Michigan's Upper Peninsula burned May 25, consuming at least 17,000 acres, or nearly 26 square miles, and prompted evacuations as dry conditions aided the fire, officials said. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said the fire, called the Duck Lake Fire, was in an area of Luce County north of Newberry that includes Lake Superior State Forest land and approached Lake Superior. It was detected May 23 after a lightning strike, the DNR said, and intensified May 24. "Strong winds and high temperatures ... enabled the fire to escape," the DNR said in a statement. Homes in the Pike Lake area were evacuated because of the fire. Evacuees were sent to a shelter set up at a youth center in Newberry and were being helped by the American Red Cross. The fire was one of two major wildfires in the area. Crews had been fighting a fire at the Seney National Wildlife Refuge in northern Schoolcraft County that was started May 20 by a lightning strike. The Seney fire, located west of the Duck Lake Fire, had burned 3,000 to 3,200 acres, or roughly 5 square miles, as of May 24. The refuge covers about 95,000 acres. Some area trails and roads were closed, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service said May 25.

Source: <http://www.ktiv.com/story/18624485/fast-moving-wildfire-in-mich-consumes-9500-acres>

58. *May 24, Associated Press* – (New Mexico; California; Nevada) **Wildfire destroys 12 homes in southwestern NM.** Winds and erratic flames forced firefighters to sit on the sidelines May 24 as a massive fire that destroyed a dozen homes and several other structures in small New Mexico community grew larger and put more buildings at risk. Tripling in size since May 23, the lightning-sparked Whitewater and Baldy fires merged to burn across more than 110 square miles of the Gila National Forest. The wind-whipped fire burned May 23 through the Willow Creek subdivision, a small summer community in southwestern New Mexico. Officials confirmed 12 cabins along with 7 small outbuildings were destroyed. Seven Willow Creek residents evacuated earlier the week of May 21, and the community of Mogollon was under voluntary evacuation. Crews near the Nevada-California line raced to secure a line above a second rural community, May 24, after a fire burned 7,500 acres and damaged two homes. Meanwhile, firefighters in a rural part of California's San Diego County fought a 1,200-acre wildfire that led to evacuation orders for 100 homes. In the Gila National Forest, the flames have raced across more than 70,500 acres of rugged terrain. The Baldy fire was first spotted May 9 and the Whitewater fire was sparked May 16, but nearly all of the growth had come in recent days due to relentless winds. No containment was reported.

Source: http://www.daily-times.com/ci_20702086/wildfire-destroys-12-homes-southwestern-nm?source=most_viewed

For another story, see item [6](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

59. *May 25, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Concrete work begins on new Folsom Dam spillway.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a contractor began work on a new control structure that will house six new flood control gates at the Folsom Dam on the American River in northern California May 24. A new concrete dam adjacent to the existing one will be 146 feet high. The six giant steel gates, each 23 feet wide and 34 feet tall, will be 50 feet lower than the spillway gates in the existing dam, allowing earlier and faster release of floodwaters. The result will be a near doubling of Folsom Dam's flood safety rating. When complete, the project is expected to provide 200-year flood protection for the Sacramento region. The \$1 billion project, started in 2007, is a collaboration among the Corps, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the State of California, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and is funded jointly by all four entities. It is expected to be completed in 2017.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/2012/05/25/2214651/concrete-work-begins-on-new-folsom.html>

60. *May 24, Cronkite News Service* – (Arizona; Utah) **Glen Canyon Dam releases aim to improve Colo. River.** The U.S. Department of the Interior announced May 23 it will test high-volume water releases from the Glen Canyon Dam near Page, Arizona, in an effort to simulate natural flooding and improve sediment flow through the Grand Canyon. The Interior Secretary also said the department would remove and relocate, rather than destroy, non-native fish species in the Colorado River as part of a long-term study. Under the plan, the department could begin releasing high amounts of water from the Glen Canyon Dam as early as October 2012 to enhance sediment levels and help restore beaches on the Colorado River. If it works, similar releases from the dam on the Arizona-Utah border could continue when conditions are favorable for high sediment deposits, usually during early spring or fall, through 2020. The release changes will not affect the hydroelectric power that the dam generates for 6 million people or the amount of water released, only the timing of it, the Secretary said. Five Interior Department agencies will be involved in implementing and monitoring the new plan: the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Source: http://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/052412_az_glen_canyon/glen-canyon-dam-releases-aim-improve-colo-river/

[\[Return to top\]](#)



Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/IPDailyReport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2314
Subscribe to the Distribution List:	Visit the DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report and follow instructions to Get e-mail updates when this information changes .
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to support@govdelivery.com .

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.